

# The Natterjack

SYDERSTONE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



The Old Rectory garden

**Welcome to the Spring 2023 edition of  
Syderstone's Natterjack Newsletter**



## Why not visit the Syderstone ‘secret garden’?

Have you ever wondered who lives behind that white gate in the tall red brick wall just down from the church?

On Saturday 4 June you’ll be able to find out! Tom and Jane White will be opening their garden that day as part of the National Gardens Scheme (NGS). Just like the famous ‘secret garden’, Tom and Jane’s is a charming old style rectory garden which was designed in 1999 by RHS award winning medallist Arne Maynard. Even for non-gardeners it's worth a visit but for gardeners who like a bit of detail – here it is! It has a parterre of English shrub roses, herbaceous beds, shrubbery and orchard as well as lawns, box, yew, beech and hornbeam hedging, pleached crab apple, wisteria, a vegetable garden and a riot of climbing roses.

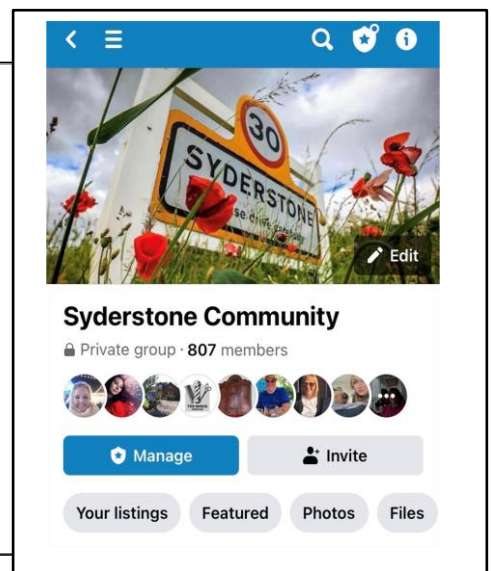
Keen plantsman Tom is already working alongside his local team, Eddie and Matthew, to get the garden into tip top condition for visitors. He explains: ‘We’ve been opening the garden on and off since 2006, when we moved in. We count ourselves very lucky to live here in Syderstone and we’re happy to share our garden for the benefit of the whole community as well as other NGS visitors who travel to see it. The refreshments team from St Mary’s church will be here with teas, coffees, cakes and rolls so it will be a great opportunity to get together and meet friends, neighbours and other keen gardeners.’

The money raised from admission fees will go towards NGS charities; refreshments proceeds will go to St Mary’s church, Syderstone.

Admission £5 each, children free. Open: 11.00am to 5.00pm. Pedestrian access via the white gate on The Street (opposite Rectory Gardens) or vehicle access from Creake Road.

### Syderstone Community Facebook page

Are you a member of the Syderstone Community Facebook page? It’s a great way to keep track of what’s happening and share information around the community. You’ll need the Facebook app on your phone or tablet then search for ‘Syderstone Community’. Simply apply to join as it is a closed group – just answer a few questions about your connection with Syderstone.



## Syderstone Local History Group – NEW!

Do you sometimes wonder what Syderstone was like in years gone by?  
Are you interested in the history of the village or your house/street?  
What was it like when farms used horses instead of tractors?  
Why are many of the older village houses built in a similar style?  
How did people in the village manage in the second world war, with the fear of invasion and bombs?  
What was it like when the village was the next door neighbour to a base for 15,000 Americans?  
Who was Amy Robsart and was she murdered?

To look at these and other questions, a new village group has been formed. The Syderstone Local History Group has been created for people to find out about the history of the village and the people who lived in it, and then share this with the people who live here now.  
Do you have documents / maps / photos that could help our search?  
Have you a story to tell about Syderstone village life?

The Group is planning to meet monthly in the village hall at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month and welcomes anyone with an interest in any of the above. The next meeting is on Thursday 2nd March. Sheila Riches will talk about some of the Syderstone family stories, photographs, maps and old newspaper accounts she has collected over the years.

**If you would like more details please contact Michael Parker, email [SyderstoneLHG@google.com](mailto:SyderstoneLHG@google.com) or Tel 07805 894284.**

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## Syderstone Parish Councillors



Dawn Niemann – Chair	01485 576217
Dave Daly – Vice-chair	01485 576222
Martin Bateman	07970128411
Paul Welland	01485 576249
Gary Kidd	01485 578507
Debs Candy	07951 317570
Trudie Blackshaw	07398 267694
Parish Clerk, Sarah Harvey	01328 823391

Parish correspondence:

By post: Parish clerk at Byanoak, Leicester Road, South Creake, NR21 9PW

Email: [syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com](mailto:syderstoneparishcouncil@outlook.com)

Website: [syderstoneparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk](mailto:syderstoneparishcouncil@norfolkparishes.gov.uk)

**Parish Council meetings - all take place at 7.30pm on the third Thursday:**

**16 March / 20 April / 18 May 2023**

Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting and there is an opportunity to make comments or ask questions of the Council during the first part of the meeting.

### THE NATTERJACK

The Natterjack Community newsletter is funded by Syderstone Parish Council and published quarterly. If you have information you would like to include, please contact its editor, Caz Appleby at [cappleby@outlook.com](mailto:cappleby@outlook.com).



**SYDERSTONE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**LITTER PICK**

SYDERSTONE PARISH COUNCIL



**SUNDAY 5TH MARCH 2023**  
Meet at the Village Hall, Syderstone  
**10.00 am — 11.30 am**  
Wear suitable protective clothing  
Equipment provided but bring your own gloves  
Rubbish collection point : Outside Village Hall  
Refreshments afterwards in the Village Hall

TELEPHONE : 01328 823391

## Meet Sarah Harvey, Syderstone's Parish Clerk

Sarah took up her role as Syderstone's Parish Clerk in mid-November last year. A true Norfolk native, Sarah grew up in South Creake, where her family have lived since the early 19th century.

Sarah is now settling into her new Syderstone job: 'I'm enjoying the variety of work the role brings, helping individuals and the local community, alongside my local knowledge and experience.'

..and Sarah has plenty of that! As well as supporting the Parish Council (PC) here in Syderstone, she has similar roles with North Creake PC (since 2010), South Creake PC (since 2012), Great Massingham PC (since 2019) as well as with Burnham Market PC for six years.

Sarah hasn't always worked in this field. She has an MA in Library and Information Studies and by profession she is a chartered librarian. She used to work at the University of Gloucester. Her very first job however was working as an usher at the Thursford Collection's Christmas concerts. She's also been a waitress and enjoyed voluntary work at The Castle Museum, Norwich.

When she's not being a Parish Clerk, Sarah enjoys Pilates, loves cooking, knitting (she sells on Etsy), reading, films and gardening.



**Telephone: 01485 592160**

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## NATURALLY SYDERSTONE - Boxing clever

A dog, a deer, a giant clod of earth? Hares are the shape-shifters of our fields. Not for them the rounded bunny look, for these are rabbits with angles. There are few sights as exhilarating as this ungainly, lanky animal all of a sudden drawing all its sinews and strength together to sprint, legs flying in perfect coordination, Britain's fastest mammal.

It's at this time of year when we can see hares out in the open living up to the name that first appears to have been hung on them in late medieval times – mad March hares. You won't see it often, or for very long, but it's thrilling to watch when you understand what's happening.

The zany behaviour is triggered by the breeding season. Dominant males (called bucks) hang around females (does) for up to five days as they start to come into season. The big bucks don't like other males moving in on their long-eared lover, so they'll bite rivals and chase them off. Even in down-time, when the doe rests up in a shallow depression she has scraped in the ground (called a form), the attendant buck will stay in close attendance.

The problem – for the male – arises if he comes on a bit too soon. If he closes in before she's properly receptive, then she'll react in spectacular fashion. This is when she rises up on her haunches and rains down punches on her importunate suitor, sometimes so animatedly that she leaps into the air. Reacting to this volley of blows, he does his best to fend her off by standing up to her as best he can, but it's an unfair contest. Mating happens when she decides and not before. Catch this mad action when you can – it may last just five seconds or less at a time.



## St. Mary's Church News

Services are held at St Mary's in Syderstone as follows:

- Alternate Friday mornings 10.00am with Father Clive: Eucharist Service.
- Monthly there is an informal Service by the Authorised Worship Assistants.
- Monthly there is an informal Praise Service led by Father Clive.

For dates and times please see the website ([www.syderstone.org](http://www.syderstone.org)) or the notice board outside church.

On **Good Friday (7 April)** the Ely leg of the Pilgrim Cross will be coming to St Marys, We will be serving tea, coffee & hot cross buns. Service 10.a.m.

Thank you to everyone who supported our 'Soup and Pancakes' lunch on Shrove Tuesday (21 February) at the Amy Robsart Village Hall raising much needed funds for St Mary's.

Date for your diary: **Friday 28 April - Quiz and Ploughman's supper** at the Amy Robsart Village Hall 7.00pm – 9.30pm. Teams of six or less. Tickets are £7.50 available from Julie Goddard.

Everyone is always welcome to all the services and fund raising events.

To contact Father Clive email: [clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org](mailto:clive.wylie@dioceseofnorwich.org)  
Tel: 01328 823293. Please remember Monday is Father Clive's day off.

Churchwardens: Anne Bennie 07817 879581 or Paul Offord 01485 578218  
PCC Secretary: Julie Goddard 07515 648928 [julia.a.goddard@gmail.com](mailto:julia.a.goddard@gmail.com)

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## News from Stanhoe Methodist Church

All are welcome at Morning Services on 5th & 19th March at 11am

\*\*\*\*\*

### Easter:

**2nd April (Palm Sunday) at 11am:** Morning Service with Holy Communion conducted by Rev. Dr. Richman Ncube.

**7th April (Good Friday) at 10am:** Pilgrims from the Pilgrim Cross (Midland Leg 2023) will be stopping off for refreshments and a short time of worship on their way to Walsingham.

**7th April (Good Friday) at 2pm:** A Service of Quiet Reflection led by Elizabeth & Philip Batstone.

**9th April (Easter Sunday) at 11am:** Morning Service led by Sheila Johnson.

\*\*\*\*\*

Morning Services on 23rd April, 7th and 21st May at 11am

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you Syderstone! This is the HUGE pile of stamps sent off in February to the RNIB to raise money for their charity. Last year they raised £30,000. Many thanks to everyone who diligently cut off their stamps! You can save stamps all year and drop them off in the collecting boxes at the church or village hall.



### Andy's General Store

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# AMY ROBSART VILLAGE HALL - (ARVH)

Registered Charity No. 271842

## Hall Activities

The village hall is flourishing and most groups are well attended. The Post Office as always is invaluable to the community. **We want to see more use of the village hall and encourage more groups to meet there**, so if you have any ideas contact Norman, Wendy or Chris to discuss your thoughts.

A **new group** is starting following the interest shown at Syderstone's Archive day led by Sheila Riches. Michael Parker's article on page three in this edition of The Natterjack tells you about the establishment of the **Syderstone Local History Group**.

Finally - If you haven't seen the **Photobook** of the **Syderstone celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**, a copy is available for you to see at the village hall during Coffee Morning or by special arrangement. It tells the story in words and pictures of the events as they developed in the village – from photographs of those making the bunting, the Jubilee lunch and the amazing afternoon tea including the draw for the raffle.



the **ARVH Committee**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

<b>Norman</b> Riches	Chair	01485 578171	normanriches@btinternet.com
<b>Wendy</b> Little	Secretary	01485 578270	secretaryARVH@outlook.com
<b>Chris</b> Little	Treasurer	01485 578270	treasurerARVH@outlook.com
<b>Gerry</b> Taylor	Money Club	01485 578524	cobblers2u@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Sheila</b> Riches	Booking Manager	01485 578171	sheilarriches@btinternet.com
<b>Martin</b> Bateman	Parish Council representative		
<b>Paul</b> Offord	St Mary's Church representative		
<b>Anita</b> Taylor	Coffee Morning representative		Tel: 01485 578524
<b>Linda</b> Pearse	Art & Craft representative		Mob: 07747 804102

## What's going on at the Village Hall?

### **SYDERSTONE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**

Contact: Michael Parker (07805 894284)

Monthly – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 7.30 – 9.30

Email: [syderstoneLHG@gmail.com](mailto:syderstoneLHG@gmail.com)

### **INDOOR BOWLS** (Short mat)

Contact: Tim Chaloner (01485 578630)

Weekly – Monday 4.00-6.00

Email: [tchaloner2@icloud.com](mailto:tchaloner2@icloud.com)

### **COFFEE MORNING**

Contact: Anita Taylor (see hall list)

Weekly

Wednesday 10.30-12.00

### **ARTS & CRAFTS**

Contact: Linda Pearse (see hall list)

Weekly

Wednesday 1.45 - 4.15

### **BOOK CLUB**

Contact: Kate Boote (07487 677772)

Monthly – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

10.30-12.00

And not forgetting

### **VILLAGE HALL POST OFFICE**

Contact: Chris Little (see hall list)

Every Week

Wednesday and Friday 9.30 – 12.00

**See back page for all events taking place at the Village Hall**

### **ARVH Annual General Meeting**

**The AGM of Amy Robsart Hall will be held at  
7.00pm on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> April.**

**All villagers, over the age of 18, living within 2.5 miles of the hall,  
are invited to attend.**

***Can you find ten hidden tulips in The Natterjack?***

***Here's an easy starter for ten!***



## **Syderstone Community Archive @ ARVH**

Contact: Sheila Riches (see village hall list)



### **New additions to the archive**

Newspaper articles relating to Syderstone 1978 and 1979.

Electoral Rolls for Syderstone and Barmer 1920 – 1931.

If you wish to view any archive material please contact Sheila.

### **Other News**

The newly formed Local History Group, (see page 3) will have use of and in time, add to, the existing archive material. The group members between them have a vast amount of knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm. I am really looking forward to working with them.

### **Old Syderstonians Reunion – everyone welcome**

**Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2.00 – 5.00pm**

Don't forget to put this date in your diary otherwise you'll miss that opportunity of seeing old friends and having a chat about old times.

Younger residents can find out more about village life as it used to be.

#### **Amy Robsart Village Hall - 100 Money Club**

The 100 Money Club runs each year from April to March. It began in 2002 to assist with the ongoing running costs and maintenance of the Village Hall.

About £12,000 has been raised since then – some £600 every year.

However, with the enforced closure of the hall due to the pandemic, the delay in activities restarting and the increase in utility costs, the Money Club has made an important contribution to the hall's income.

For your £12 a year you will have the opportunity to win one or more of the 36 cash prizes awarded every year. Three numbers, with a cash prize of £25.00, £15.00 or £10.00, are normally drawn on the first Wednesday of every month during the regular Village Hall Coffee Morning (10.30 am - 12 noon Wednesdays). Most numbers are already allocated, but there are a small changes each year. If you would like to support us, please join our reserve list.

I hope you will be able to support us. Many thanks.

Gerry Taylor (Money Club Manager) – see ARVH for contact details

## **VILLAGE SCREEN CINEMA** at Amy Robsart Hall

Email: syderstonecinema\_ARVH@outlook.com

***Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm***

### **THE LOST KING (12A)**

*The story of an ordinary woman who confounds the experts through sheer determination.*

In 2012, having been lost for over 500 years, the remains of King Richard III were discovered beneath a carpark in Leicester. The search had been orchestrated by an amateur historian, Philippa Langley, whose unrelenting research had been met with incomprehension by her friends and family and with scepticism by experts and academics. The Lost King is the life-affirming true story of a woman who refused to be ignored and who took on the country's most eminent historians, forcing them to think again about one of the most controversial kings in England's history.

*Starring: Sally Hawkins, Steve Coogan and Harry Lloyd.*

***Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm***

### **LIVING (12A)**

*Living takes on nothing less than life itself and features a quiet, note perfect performance from Bill Nighy*

When Mr Williams, a buttoned-up bureaucrat in 1950s London, is diagnosed as terminally ill, he decides that he would like to achieve something for once, instead of just endlessly pushing paper. A group of ladies has come into the Public Works office, asking to have a hazardous area in their neighbourhood transformed into a children's playground. The formerly ineffectual Mr Williams makes it his personal mission to push the job through before he dies.

*Starring: Bill Nighy and Aimee Lou Wood.*

### **FILM DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Films are normally being shown on the last Saturday of the month. See **Facebook, local press** and **posters** for further details.

**Tickets: £4.00 advance booking** - pay at the door

**Tel: 01485 578171 Email: syderstonecinema\_ARVH@outlook.com**



## Recipe time ..... Honey ginger chicken stir fry with noodles

If you're thinking about getting takeaway, give this a go. It tastes unbelievable and it's healthy and delicious. Honey ginger chicken stir fry with a lovely delicious sauce. Vegetarians could swap tofu for the chicken.

<b>Ingredients (for two people)</b> 2 chicken breasts or 3 thighs (diced) or firm tofu Cornflour for coating chicken / tofu Sesame or sunflower oil for frying chicken 2 tablespoons clear honey 2 cloves garlic, crushed About a 3cm piece of fresh root ginger, grated	2 tablespoons sesame oil 2 tablespoons soy sauce 2 tablespoons tomato ketchup 2 tablespoons sesame seeds 1 red pepper, chopped 5 spring onions, chopped Ready-made soft noodles
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### Here's how ...

1. Dice the chicken breast and coat it in cornflour. Stir fry in a wok or broad-based pan until it is cooked and a bit crispy around the edges.
2. For the sauce: In a bowl mix together honey, crushed garlic, crushed ginger, sesame oil, soy sauce, tomato ketchup and the sesame seeds.
3. Add mixed peppers and spring onions to chicken in the pan then add half of the sauce. Stir fry the mix for a couple of minutes.
4. Add in the bag of ready made noodles. Stir fry for a couple of minutes then add the final bit of dressing from the bowl on top of the noodles.

Enjoy! (with thanks to Joe Wicks)

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## Mobile library in Syderstone

Did you know that the mobile library van visits Syderstone every month on a Tuesday afternoon?

The stopping times and places are:

2.25pm – 2.35pm: Outside 14 Ashside

2.40pm – 2.55pm: Outside the Village Hall

The date for the next visit is 14 March.



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## Gardening Corner

Sitting in our garden room in the morning sunshine, I'm aware of all that is emerging in the garden. Winter is almost over although the weather can be very fickle in Spring with March winds, April showers and late frosts. There's plenty to do now as the clocks go forward and the days grow longer. The need to be out in the garden is strong. It's a time to enjoy all of the delights of birdsong, daffodils nodding their heads, the heady scent of hyacinths, trees burgeoning into leaf and being surrounded by colour and nature's sounds.

Most people are aware that spending time outside is beneficial to our mental health and it keeps us physically active. However, we must be mindful to treat our bodies with respect and not overdo it. A regular coffee break is essential when doing the digging or mowing!

Hedgehogs will be coming out of hibernation and they'll be hungry, so put out a small dish of dry cat or dog food but make sure it is not fish based. Hedgehogs are lactose intolerant, so no bread and milk for the gardeners, friend! They will also be thirsty, so a bowl of fresh water will be welcome.

This wonderful time of year is full of promise for the summer to come, so make sure you take time each day to look at and spend time in your outside space. No matter how big or small, it will give you all that Mother Nature has to offer.

### **M Bateman – Maintenance**

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Email: [Bateman1@btopenworld.com](mailto:Bateman1@btopenworld.com)

Mob: **07970128411**

Tel: **01485 578124**

## At a glance – your what’s on guide

March			
1st	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
1st	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
2nd	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
5th	Community Litter Pick/Refreshments at ARVH	10.00-11.30pm	ARVH
6th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
8th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
8th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
13th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
14th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
14th	Mobile library	2.25 – 2.55pm	Ashside and ARVH
15th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
15th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
16th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
20th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
22nd	Coffee morning with home made cakes and jams sale	10.30am	ARVH
22nd	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
25th	Village Screen Cinema – The Lost King (12A)	7.30pm	ARVH
27th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
29th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
29 <sup>th</sup>	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
April			
2nd	Palm Sunday Service	11.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
3rd	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
5th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
6th	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
7th	Midlands Pilgrims visit & service	10.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
7th	Ely Pilgrims & service with refreshments	10.00am	St Mary’s
7th	Service of quiet reflection	2.00pm	Stanhoe Methodist
9th	Easter Day Morning Service	11.00am	Stanhoe Methodist
9th	Easter Day Praise Service	4.00pm	St Mary’s
11th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
12th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
12th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
15th	Old Syderstonian’s Reunion	2.00 – 5.00pm	ARVH
17th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
19th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
19th	Arts and Crafts	1.45 - 4.15pm	ARVH
19th	ARVH Annual General Meeting	7.00pm	ARVH
20th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
24th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
26th	Coffee morning with home made cakes and jams sale	10.30am	ARVH
28th	Quiz & Ploughman’s Supper	7.00 – 9.30pm	ARVH
29th	Village Screen Cinema – Living (12A)	7.30pm	ARVH
May			
3rd	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
4th	Local History Group	7.30pm	ARVH
9th	Book Club	10.30 – 12.00	ARVH
10th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
15th	Indoor bowls (short mat)	4.00 - 6.00pm	ARVH
18th	Parish Council meeting	7.30pm	ARVH
17th	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH
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27th	Village Screen Cinema	7.30pm	ARVH
31st	Coffee morning	10.30am	ARVH